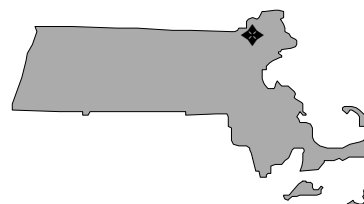


Size: 9,283 acres
Mission: Support Reserve Component training
HRS Score: 42.24; placed on NPL in November 1989
IAG Status: IAG signed in November 1991
Contaminants: VOCs, heavy metals, petroleum products, PCBs, pesticides, herbicides, and explosive compounds
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: \$77.5 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): \$21.9 million (FY2002)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for BRAC Sites: FY2002



Fort Devens, Massachusetts

Restoration Background

In July 1991, the BRAC Commission recommended that Fort Devens close and establish a reserve enclave. In FY96, the Army closed Fort Devens, replacing it with the Devens Reserve Forces Training Area (RFTA), which assumed the remaining Army mission.

Environmental investigations conducted at this installation since FY89 have identified 84 sites with 324 BRAC areas of concern (AOCs), including landfills, vehicle and equipment maintenance and storage yards, the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) scrap yard, motor pools, and underground storage tanks (UST). Investigations revealed soil contaminated with heavy metals, petroleum products, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and groundwater contaminated with heavy metals and solvents.

In FY94, the commander formed a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). The technical review committee, now a subcommittee of the RAB, and a BRAC cleanup team also assist in reviewing issues and documents.

In FY95, the installation began several Interim Actions, including removal of USTs and installation of a soil vapor extraction system. The installation also completed two Records of Decision (RODs) for the Shepley's Hill Landfill Operable Unit (OU) and the Barnum Road Maintenance Yards OU. In addition, an Environmental Impact Study was completed, and an enhanced Preliminary Assessment identified 10 areas requiring evaluation.

In FY96, the Army transferred 2,913 acres and leased 669 acres to the Massachusetts Development and Finance Agency. The Army and regulators signed a ROD for the South Post Impact Area to monitor the level of explosives and solvents in the groundwater. The installation completed radiological surveys for 98 percent of affected

buildings on the property and completed fieldwork for the explosive ordnance survey. A Feasibility Study (FS) for landfill consolidation is under way.

In FY97, the Army transferred an additional 21 acres of previously leased land to the Massachusetts Development and Finance Agency. Approximately 222 acres was also transferred to the Federal Bureau of Prisons. The installation completed the Environmental Condition of Property (ECP) assessment for a 22-acre parcel that will eventually be transferred to the U.S. Department of Labor.

The Army and EPA approved a no-further-action ROD for AOC 63AX. The installation completed the Remedial Investigation (RI) and FS and the Proposed Plan for AOCs 32 and 43A. The installation also completed the explosive ordnance survey.

FY98 Restoration Progress

In December 1997, the installation issued a Proposed Plan addressing remediation at AOCs 9, 11, 40, and 41 and Study Areas (SAs) 6, 12, and 13. The Proposed Plan followed a 2-year negotiation between the Army, EPA, the state, and the Devens Commerce Center. Due to unforeseen public and political opposition to the Proposed Plan, no ROD was achieved in FY98 for the seven small landfill and debris disposal areas. In February 1998, the Army and EPA approved a ROD for AOCs 32 (DRMO scrap yard) and 43A (petroleum, oil, and lubricants [POL] bulk storage area). Supplemental RIs began at AOC 50 and AOC 57. The installation completed an Interim Removal Action at AOC 69W.

Of the 324 BRAC areas requiring environmental evaluation (AREEs) and CERCLA sites, 236 require no further action. Fifty-eight more sites are awaiting regulatory approval for no further action status.

The Army transferred 22 acres of land to the Department of Labor for construction of a Job Corps Center. Transfer of 836 acres to the Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was delayed because of issues with the ECP. Resolution of those issues is pending.

Plan of Action

- Complete supplemental RIs at AOCs 50 and 57 in FY99
- Complete FSs at two sites in FY99
- Sign two RODs for eight sites in FY99 and two RODs in FY00
- Initiate Remedial Actions at seven sites in FY99
- Transfer 836 acres to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in FY99
- Issue a revised Proposed Plan in FY99

SITES ACHIEVING RIP OR RC PER FISCAL YEAR

